

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A conscious sedation system comprising:

a) a controller which generates a request for a predetermined response from a patient and which analyses at least a response made by the patient to the request to determine a level of sedation of the patient; and

b) a response testing apparatus including:

(1) a request assembly which communicates to the patient the request generated by the controller; and

(2) a response assembly which senses the response and which communicates the response to the controller,

wherein at least one of the request assembly and the response assembly includes a cableless communication device which communicates at least one of the request and the response between the controller and the patient.

2. The conscious sedation system of claim 1, wherein a user and/or the controller determines a delivery schedule of a conscious-sedation drug to the patient based at least in part on the determined level of sedation of the patient.

3. The conscious sedation system of claim 1, wherein the cableless communication device includes a transmitter and a receiver in cableless communication with the transmitter, and wherein the cableless communication device imposes a unique identifier on at least one of the transmitter and the receiver which prevents the cableless communication device from responding to crosstalk from other transmitters.

4. The conscious sedation system of claim 3, wherein the unique identifier is manually-triggered, or is automatically proximity-triggered when the transmitter and the receiver are brought into proximity to each other, or requires both manual and proximity triggering.

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5. The conscious sedation system of claim 1, also including a console, wherein the controller is disposed in the console.
6. A response testing apparatus for a conscious sedation system comprising:
 - a) a request assembly which communicates to a patient a request generated by a controller of the conscious sedation system for a predetermined response from the patient; and
 - b) a response assembly which senses a response made by the patient to the request and which communicates the response to the controller which analyses at least the response to determine a level of sedation of the patient, wherein at least one of the request assembly and the response assembly includes a cableless communication device which communicates at least one of the request and the response between the controller and the patient.
7. The response testing apparatus of claim 6, wherein the request assembly includes a cableless communication device which communicates the request from the controller to the patient.
8. The response testing apparatus of claim 7, wherein the cableless communication device includes an RF transmitter and includes an RF receiver in wireless communication with the RF transmitter and disposed proximate the patient.
9. The response testing apparatus of claim 8, wherein the request assembly verifies that the request was received by the RF receiver.
10. The response testing apparatus of claim 8, wherein the request assembly includes a battery-operated portion, and wherein the request assembly monitors the battery condition of the battery-operated portion.

11. The response testing apparatus of claim 8, wherein the request assembly includes a speaker, and wherein the RF receiver is used to activate the speaker to produce an audible request to the patient.

12. The response testing apparatus of claim 11, wherein the speaker is an earphone disposable proximate an ear of the patient.

13. The response testing apparatus of claim 8, wherein the request assembly includes a vibrator, and wherein the RF receiver is used to activate the vibrator to produce a tactile request to the patient.

14. The response testing apparatus of claim 13, wherein the vibrator is disposed in a handpiece, and wherein the handpiece is disposable proximate a hand of the patient.

15. The response testing apparatus of claim 6, wherein the response assembly includes a cableless communication device which communicates the response from the patient to the controller.

16. The response testing apparatus of claim 15, wherein the cableless communication device includes an RF transmitter disposed proximate the patient and includes an RF receiver in wireless communication with the RF transmitter.

17. The response testing apparatus of claim 16, wherein the response assembly includes a handpiece disposable proximate a hand of the patient, wherein the handpiece includes a switch, and wherein the response includes the patient activating the switch whereby a signal is sent by the RF transmitter.

18. The response testing apparatus of claim 6, wherein the request assembly includes a cableless communication device which communicates the request

from the controller to the patient, and wherein the response assembly includes a cableless communication device which communicates the response from the patient to the controller.

19. A response testing apparatus for a conscious sedation system comprising:

a) a request assembly which communicates to a patient a request generated by a controller of the conscious sedation system for a predetermined response from the patient; and

b) a response assembly which senses a response made by the patient to the request and which communicates the response to the controller which analyses at least the response to determine a level of sedation of the patient,

wherein at least one of the request assembly and the response assembly includes a cableless communication device which communicates at least one of the request and the response between the controller and the patient,

wherein the cableless communication device includes a transmitter and a receiver in cableless communication with the transmitter, and

wherein the cableless communication device imposes a unique identifier on at least one of the transmitter and the receiver which prevents the cableless communication device from responding to crosstalk from other transmitters.

20. The response testing apparatus of claim 19, wherein the unique identifier is manually-triggered, or is automatically proximity-triggered when the transmitter and the receiver are brought into proximity to each other, or requires both manual and proximity triggering.

21. The response testing apparatus of claim 19, wherein the transmitter is an RF transmitter, and wherein the receiver is an RF receiver in wireless communication with the RF transmitter.

22. The response testing apparatus of claim 21, wherein the cableless communication device selects the operating frequency of at least one of the

transmitter and the receiver which prevents the cableless communication device from responding to crosstalk from other transmitters.

23. The response testing apparatus of claim 21, wherein the cableless communication device selects a digital code for at least one of the transmitter and the receiver which prevents the cableless communication device from responding to crosstalk from other transmitters.

24. The response testing apparatus of claim 19, also including a lockout which prevents use of the cableless communication device unless the imposition of the unique identifier has been successfully verified.